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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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1(Currently Amended). A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length that specifically hybridizes to ~~nucleobases 31 through 110, nucleobases 121 through 150, nucleobases 1600 through 1620,~~ or nucleobases 1631 through 1769 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human cholesteryl ester transfer protein (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said compound inhibits the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein.

2(Original). The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

3(Cancelled)

E' 4(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5(Original). The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7(Original). The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9(Original). The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11(Cancelled).

E 1  
12(Original). A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13(Original). The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14(Original). The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15(Previously Amended). A method of inhibiting the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (Cancelled).